

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ANDREW A. CEJAS.

Plaintiff,

V.

DANIEL PARAMO, Warden, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No.: 14-cv-1923-WQH-WVG

ORDER

HAYES, Judge:

On October 1, 2019, Plaintiff Andrew A. Cejas, a state prisoner proceeding *pro se*, filed a Request for Appointment of Counsel. (ECF No. 118). On January 8, 2020, the Court issued an Order referring the case to the Court’s Pro Bono Panel. (ECF No. 125). The Court stated, “Plaintiff’s Request for Appointment of Counsel (ECF No. 118) remains pending.” (*Id.* at 1). The Pro Bono Panel has been unable to select any attorney suitable for appointment due to the COVID-19 national emergency.

A district court has broad discretion to stay proceedings pending before it “to control the disposition of the causes on its docket with economy of time and effort for itself, for counsel, and for litigants.” *Landis v. N. Am. Co.*, 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936). The power to stay “calls for the exercise of judgment, which must weigh competing interests and maintain an even balance.” *Id.* at 254-55 (citations omitted). “Among these competing interests are the possible damage which may result from the granting of a stay, the hardship or inequity which a party may suffer in being required to go forward, and the orderly course of justice measured in terms of the simplifying or complicating of issues, proof, and

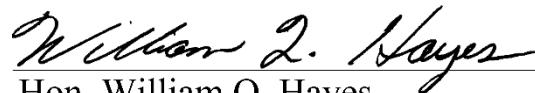
1 questions of law which could be expected to result from a stay.” *CMAX, Inc. v. Hall*, 300
2 F.2d 265, 268 (9th Cir. 1962).

3 The Court finds that it is appropriate to stay this action for sixty (60) days. Plaintiff’s
4 Request for Appointment of Counsel (ECF No. 118) is denied without prejudice and with
5 leave to refile. Accordingly,

6 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this action is stayed for sixty (60) days from the
7 date of this Order. After the sixty-day period, the stay will be lifted and proceedings will
8 resume in this Court.

9 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff’s Request for Appointment of Counsel
10 (ECF No. 118) is denied without prejudice to refile. Plaintiff may file refile any Request
11 for Appointment of Counsel within forty-five (45) days after the stay is lifted.

12 Dated: April 27, 2020



13 Hon. William Q. Hayes
14 United States District Court

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